Please see original alt.noise post here.

Rnk (#)	Theme	Term	Terms submitted
1 (42)	craft	arthouse beatssometimes broadway musical style$_{-1}$ but...communicative, maybe not$_{-1}$ complex$_{-1}$ cold$_{-1}$ complexity$_{-1}$ creepy cut-up$_{-1}$ cut-up$_{-1}$ dense blocks of gut quaking pain$_{-2}$ digital dynamic$_{-1}$ dynamic$_{-1}$ dynamic$_{-1}$ entrancing$_{-1}$ etc...$_{-1}$ evocative$_{-1}$ Fred West meets Steps$_{-1}$ g-spot inducing homemade hyperdynamic$_{-1}$ Kosakai's envious wardrobe$_{-1}$ layered$_{-1}$ loosely structured$_{-1}$ malleable$_{-1}$ melodies within$_{-1}$ multi-layered$_{-1}$ noncomputer precarious balanced$_{-1}$ quasi-artistic quasi-repetitive$_{-1}$ screaming self conscious sexy$_{-1}$ sonic space shifting$_{-1}$ STEREO thought provoking$_{-1}$ textured$_{-1}$ visual$_{-1}$ well-layered$_{-1}$	densely-packed, unrelenting, high-velocity, expansive, precariously-balanced, timeless, slightly-silly, monstrous Space shifting -obscene-aggressive-nauseating-entrancing-orgasm enducing-violent-thought provoking. high/low frequency rapid fire shifts, dense blocks of gut quaking pain, spitting multi channeled piercing throbs of cutting analog needles and Kosokai's envious wardrobe.. hypnotic surreal dominant textured abstract harsh, dense, dynamic, textural, metallic, layered, cut-up, spastic, etc... depth... dark... maleable... well-layered... bass... evocative... visual.... harsh, spastic, loosely structured, complex, violent thick, layered, STEREO, loud, full. creepy, dark, humorous, sonic, dynamic, spacey. impenetrable, sexy, dynamic, austere, cold, shifting, levatating. Loud, harsh, quasi-repetative, monolithic, cut-up, quasi-artistic, low-end. chocolate covered, cutesy, arthouse, machine-gun, g-spot inducing, free form, broadway musical style, love em long time. sharp, painful, vocals, grinding, multi-layered, melodies within, beatssometimes hamburger, leotard, mayor, ski fungus, noise

2 (36)	spastic	abstract abstract but...communicative, maybe not$_{-1}$ careless chirping$_{-1}$ cut-up cut-up cutesy dynamic dynamic dynamic Fred West meets Steps free form hamburger high/low frequency rapid fire shifts high velocity hilarious hyperdynamic Kosakai's envious wardrobe leotard loosely structured machine-gun meaningless nauseating obscene orgasm inducing precarious balanced ridiculous shifting ski fungus space shifting slightly silly spastic spitting multi channeled piercing throbs of cutting analog needles surreal whatever	Fred West meets Steps Harsh, LOUD, dense, unrelenting. corruscating roaring piercing screaming hyperdynamic euphoric homemade, chirping, fluid, voices, noncomputer. meaningless, ridiculous, hilarious, self conscious, careless, whatever, but...communicative, maybe not. grey/abstract/digital/ambient/complexity
3 (28)	dense	bass broadway musical style chocolate covered complex complexity dark dense	

		dense
		densely packed
		dense blocks of gut quaking pain
		depth
		expansive
		full
		grinding
		impenetrable
		layered
		layered
		low-end
		monolithic
		monstrous
		noise
		multi-layered
		sonic
		STEREO
		textural
		textured
		thick
		well-layered
4 (25)	harsh	aggressive
		austere
		chirping
		cold
		corruscating
		dense blocks of gut quaking pain
		dominant
		grey
		grinding$_{-1}$
		harsh
		harsh
		harsh
		Harsh
		loud
		LOUD
		noise$_{-1}$
		painful
		piercing
		roaring
		screaming
		sharp
		unrelenting
		unrelenting
		violent
		violent

5 (20)	harmonica	ambient
		complex$_{-1}$
		corruscating$_{-1}$
		etc...
		entrancing
		euphoric
		expansive$_{-1}$
		evocative
		fluid
		hypnotic
		levitating
		malleable
		melodies within
		monstrous$_{-1}$
		quasi-repetitive
		thought provoking
		sexy
		spacey
		timeless
		visual
6 (17)	raw	austere$_{-1}$
		but...communicative, maybe not$_{-2}$
		careless$_{-1}$
		free form$_{-1}$
		g-spot inducing$_{-1}$
		homemade$_{-1}$
		leotard$_{-1}$
		love em long time
		obscene
		orgasm inducing$_{-1}$
		quasi-artistic$_{-1}$
		nauseating$_{-1}$
		noncomputer$_{-1}$
		ski fungus$_{-1}$
		vocals
		voices
		whatever$_{-1}$

Science of Noise bullshit as I believe originally spewed on iheartnoise.

This is an idea I've toyed with for more than a few years now: to measure noise based on a few fixed criteria. Namely, harshness, density, rawness, craftsmanship, spasticity, harmonicaness. (details below)

It's something I meant to post to alt.noise a while back. I didn't because I was chickenshit. I decided that the rather arbitrary notion of "fixed criteria" would collapse under the cumbersome tide of outraged criticism, and be consigned forever to rot in the bowels of a bottomless flamepit. So I copped out with an open survey-style question: "Describe noise in five to eight words".

For results of the bogus survey, go here:

http://www.google.com/groups?q=+%22slightly+silly%22+group:alt.noise&hl=en&lr=&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&selm=8rskp6%24vuf%241%40nnrp1.deja.com&rnum=1 [edit: link no longer works, please refer to above link]

The survey results, however, in more recent hindsight, support what I`ve always felt: that most of us listen to noise for the same reasons, and are usually listening for the same damn thing. Noise is, before anything else, a word. A word implies a limit. If we can have a limit, we can have a fixed analytical system.

The following are the categories I think would serve noise best:

Harshness. The overall sound pressure and intensity. The degree to which the sound consistently assaults the ear. The literal, physical effect on the listener`s ability to hear, both in the immediate and the foreseeable future. Hearing aids, anyone? Incapacitants score high in this area, MSBR not so high.

Density. The overall depth and complexity. The degree to which the abysmal depths of noise are both hinted at and permeated. The sense of being sucked into a bottomless chasm of unimaginable diversity and motion. Skin Crime scores it big, early Masonna barely registers.

Rawness. The logical extension of a savagely twisted no-fi obsession, and the grim, brutal, barebones honesty that goes with it. Mutilated meatgrinder grit. Mangled tapehead fidelity. Burned out saturated flatulence. Knurl and Prurient take this particular taco.

Craftsmanship. The demonstrated technique and skill, time and effort, preparing and/or performing. The extent to which the seemingly effortless flow and fluidity fools the puny brain into perceiving a "musical" context. Compositional factors may also weigh in: editing, layering, mixing, composing. Kazumoto Endo and Sickness get top marks.

Spasticity. The vertiginous sense of displacement and disorientation. The extent to which the warped noisebrain is fucked with, and rendered senseless, dazed, drunken pulp. Fresh and spontaneous whiplash nervesnap. Synaptic gaps ad stupidum. Can`t put your finger on it? Can`t get your bearings? Ready to give up and call it "noise"? All right then. Gomikawa Fumio at ya.

Harmonicaness. The world of drone. The mostly uncontrollable interplay of undertones and overtones

which gently, but firmly, convey the drowsy attention span deep into the slumbering heart of Never Never Land. CCCC and early Stimbox are definite frontrunners.

There's a fair bit of overlap, but I'm hardly suggesting this to be an exact science. Call it another tool in the eternal quest to locate the shit you wanna hear.

Here are some sample "reviews" employing these criteria:

Incapacitants - No Progress (Alchemy)
Harshness 10
Density 7.5
Rawness 7
Craftsmanship 5.5
Spasticity 3
Harmonicaness 8

Masonna - shinsen na clitoris (Vanilla)
Harshness 9
Density 2
Rawness 7.5
Craftsmanship 6
Spasticity 9.5
Harmonicaness 3

Gasolineman - born in the high octane fuel (out)
Harshness 9
Density 4.5
Rawness 5
Craftsmanship 7.5
Spasticity 10
Harmonicaness 1

Metrocide / Analog Weapon (23 Productions)
Harshness Metrocide 9 / Analog Weapon 8
Density Metrocide 7 / Analog Weapon 6.5
Rawness Metrocide 5.5 / Analog Weapon 7.5
Crafstmanship Metrocide 8 / Analog Weapon 6
Spasticity Metrocide 6.5 / Analog Weapon 7.5
Harmonicaness Metrocide 7.5 / Analog Weapon 2.5

The Rita / Kevin Rivard - Shin Health (self released)
Harshness 8
Density 4.5
Rawness 10
Craftsmanship 6
Spasticity 8
Harmonicaness 4

Mauthausen Orchestra - Bloodyminded (?)
Harshness 6.5
Density 5
Rawness 8.5
Craftsmanship 4.5
Spasticity 3
Harmonicaness 7.5

Yellow Cab - s/t (GROSS)
Harshness 9.5
Density 7
Rawness 6
Craftsmanship 6.5
Spasticity 8
Harmonicaness 6.5

Killer Bug - Steaming Gash (b/b)
Harshness 10
Density 7
Rawness 2.5
Craftsmanship 8.5
Spasticity 8.5
Harmonicaness 8.5

Note: I initially meant for this system to be used as a supplement to legitimate reviews, and NOT to replace reviews proper. In my vision: "The busy noiseperv glances at the scores... vaguely interested or curious (though more probably merely offended), the perv reads the spew to follow..."

All flames welcome.